1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

000 civilized nations. Their number is reckoned to be 100 men or more, but not above 30 of them pay any tax, the reſt, at the time of its gathering, hiding themſelves in the mountains. They go to this iſland in the ſummer in their little boats; but in the winter they have no communication with it.

133 721 R 177 .71 There is little worth notice after you paſs the above-mentioned iſland, 'till you come to the *Uyulen* or *Olutora* river. Upon this river the *Ruſſians* twice built the *Olutorſkoy* fort. The firſt was built by a native of *Jakutſki*, called *Athanaſey Petrove*, upon the ſouthern ſhore, very little above the mouth of the *Kalkina* rivulet which falls into the *Olutora* from the ſouth; and the ſecond a great deal below that place under the direction of Major *Paulutſkoy*, who was ſent there on account of the rebellious *Tchukotſkoi*; but both of them were forſaken and burnt down by the *Olutores*. The laſt fort is about two days' voyage from the mouth of the *Olutora*.

133 The *Atwaleck* cape, which extends 80 verſts into the ſea, begins near the river *Elir*, and points towards the *Govyannoy* cape. The ſea between thoſe capes is called *Olutorſkoy*. The *Pockatska* riſes in the ſame plain with the river *Glotova*, which runs from the north-eaſt into the *Olutora*. From the *Kalkina*, where was built the firſt *Olutorſkoy* fort, to the river *Pockatska*, is five days' journey with rein-deer, reckoning for each day between 30 and 40 verſts. Between the *Katurka* and the land oppoſite to *Anadir*, there projects into the ſea a rocky cape, called *Kateerſkoy* in 64° 15′ north latitude. The diſtance from the *Petropaulauskaya* haven to the mouth of the *Anadir*, as obſerved by the ſea-officers, is 19° 20′; and the ſea coaſt from the *Kurilskaya Lopatka* to the *Tchukotskoi* cape, north eaſt, which lies in 67°, is for the moſt part mountainous, eſpecially in thoſe places where the capes project into the ſea.

We

1: Krasheninnikov N-S (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

the worſt roads, and to free themſelves very often overturn their driver.

The beſt travelling is in the month of *March* or *April*, when the ſnow is turned hard or frozen a little at top; however, there is ſtill this inconvenience attending it, that ſometimes travellers are obliged to lodge two or three nights in deſert places; and it is difficult to prevail upon the *Kamtſchadales* to make fire either for warming themſelves or dreſſing victuals, as they and their dogs eat dried fiſh, and find themſelves ſo warm wrapt in their furrs that they want none; nay, it is ſurpriſing to ſee all the people of this climate bearing the cold ſo well, that after having ſlept a whole night very ſound they awake next morning as refreſhed and alert as if they had lain in the warmeſt bed. This ſeems to be ſo natural to all here, that I have ſeen ſome of them lie down with their backs uncovered againſt a fire, and notwithſtanding the fire has been burnt out long before morning, yet they continued to ſleep on very comfortably, and without any inconvenience.

CHAP. X.

Of the Kamtſchadales' *Method of making* WAR.

ALTHOUGH before they were conquered by the *Ruſſians*, the *Kamtſchadales* did not ſeem to have had any ambition of increaſing their power, or enlarging their territories, yet they had ſuch frequent quarrels among themſelves that ſeldom a year paſſed without one village or other being entirely ruined. The end of their wars was to take priſoners, in order

1: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

order to employ them, if males, in their hardeſt labour, or, if females, either for wives or concubines; and ſometimes the neighbouring villages went to war for quarrels that happened among the children; or for neglecting to invite each other to their entertainments.

Their wars are carried on more by ſtratagem than bravery; for they are ſuch cowards that they will not openly attack any one unleſs forced by neceſſity: this is the more extraordinary, becauſe no people ſeem to deſpiſe life more than they do, ſelf-murther being here very frequent. Their manner of attacking is this: in the night-time they ſteal into the enemy's village, and ſurpriſe them, which may eaſily be done as they keep no watch; thus a ſmall party may deſtroy a large village, as they have nothing more to do than to ſecure the mouth of a hut, and ſuffer no body to come out, which only one can do at a time; therefore whoever firſt attempts to eſcape is knocked down, or obliged to ſubmit to be bound.

The male priſoners which they take, eſpecially if they are men of any conſequence, are treated with all manner of barbarity, ſuch as burning, hewing them to pieces, tearing their entrails out when alive, and hanging them by the feet. This has been the fate of ſeveral *Ruſſian* Coſſacks during the diſturbances of *Kamtſchatka*; and theſe barbarities are exerciſed with great ſhew of triumph and rejoicing.

Theſe private differences among themſelves were very uſeful to the Coſſacks in their conqueſt of the whole nation; for when the natives ſaw the latter attacking one village, ſo far were they from aſſiſting their countrymen, that they rejoiced at their deſtruction, not conſidering that the ſame was to be their fate next.

In their wars with the Coſſacks, they deſtroyed more by ſtratagem than by arms; for when the Coſſacks came to any village

5: Jochelson A-5 (1910-11) 1928 Kamchadal

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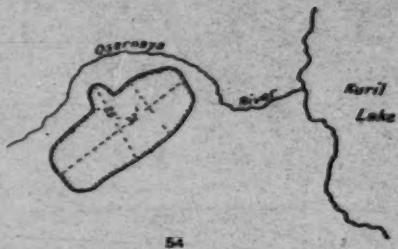
(54) Four ornamented pottery fragments (2940).
(55) Figure 51 (2941), fragment of some bone implement, much decayed, possibly a part of a sledge runner, 2/9 natural size.
(56) Figure 52 (2943), a bone hook of reindeer antler, probably used as a root digger, 1/3 natural size.
(57) Two handles of bone spoons (2944, 2945).
(58) Six fragments of bone implements (2946).
(59) Four fragments of bone implements (2947).
(60) Seven fragments of bone implements (2948).
(61) Four scrapers (2949).

We see from the number of specimens found (about 230), that the excavation of the Kavran site was particularly productive.

The ancient site on the bank of the Osernaya River is 2 miles from the point where it flows out to the sea from the Kuril Lake. There were several depressions of former dwellings, and we excavated the largest of these. The pit before digging was 2 feet deep. Then followed a layer of black earth more than a foot deep, after which the primeval soil consisting of gravel appeared. In the layer of black earth were found traces of a fireplace, two whetstones, two pottery fragments, one of



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which had a handle inside, and a Japanese coin. Remains of posts were not discovered. The pit had a rectangular form like the pits on the shores of the Nalacheva Lake. Those of the Kulki and Kavran Rivers had rather a circular form.

Higher in the rocky bank over the described pit was a small depression resembling a pit. We excavated it and found a layer of mold about a foot deep in which were only a fragment of pottery, with an ear inside, and some bones of a bear.

We came to the ancient site on the shore of the Kuril Lake on August 8 and diggings were carried on from August 9 to 14. We left the lake August 16. In order to reach Lake Kuril we had to ascend the Osernaya River, flowing out from the lake into Okhotsk Sea. The river is fifty-five miles long.

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The mouth of the river is connected with some historical episodes. During the Russian-Japanese War, in May of 1905, a fleet of Japanese schooners landed there with the intention of taking possession of Kamchatka. The Japanese were volunteers, numbering 150, under the command of the retired Captain Hundzi Naridata. At that time there was no settlement at the mouth of Osernaya River. The Japanese put up a trenched camp, mounted their only cannon and hoisted a Japanese flag. Except the visit to Petropavlovsk by Admiral Togo's squadron,

5: Jochelson A-5 (1910-11) 1928 Kamchadal

175 this was the only attempt to take Kamchatka by force, and it ended very unhappily for the Japanese.

721 When the Japanese were marching along the coast to the village Yavino, its inhabitants fled into the mountains, abandoning their houses, belongings, cattle and dogs. The Japanese finding no one in the village, occupied the Russian houses, hoisted a Japanese flag over the chapel and put up a post with a declaration of the annexation of Kamchatka to Japan. Some days later the Japanese returned to Osernaya taking with them all the cattle, horses and dogs from Yavino.

In the meantime a troop of Russian militia under command of Ensign Shaba arrived at the mouth of the Yavino River in a schooner from Bolsheretzk, and another detachment under Lieutenant Sotnikoff reached Yavino by land. Sotnikoff took command of both detachments. The combined Russian forces numbered only 80, and Sotnikoff did not venture an open attack but took refuge in a ruse. He despatched a man to Hundji, who pretended he had been sent by the inhabitants of Yavino to ask for a doctor and victuals. Hundji, a doctor and two interpreters all unarmed left Osernaya for Yavino. Along the way they were attacked from ambush. The interpreters were shot and Hundji and the doctor captured. Later a Russian detachment had a skirmish with a Japanese vanguard in which one Russian was killed and three were wounded. The Japanese doctor dressed their wounds. On the following morning the Japanese shot the cattle and dogs and left Osernaya in their schooners for the south.

609 This adventure resulted in the killing by the Russians of peaceful Japanese fishermen in many villages on the western coast of Kamchatka. Usually
563 the Kamchadal are well disposed toward the Japanese, who are just in their relations to the former, attending their sick and furnishing them with medicine.

167 After the Russian-Japanese War many Russian adventurers, mostly discharged
563 soldiers, found their way from Vladivostok to Kamchatka. Some were attracted by reports of rich profits obtained by sable hunting, others by the desire to introduce agriculture in Kamchatka, but they all remained and mixed with the native fishing population, Kamchadal and Russians. Another company of adventurers settled at the mouth of the Osernaya River, forming a new village. At first their condition was deplorable. Fishing was abundant but there was no market for exchange. They had no money, flour, tea and other commodities to which they were accustomed in their native places of European Russia. The women particularly longed for bread, and often said: "We would give up all the fish for one piece of bread, not mentioning our melons, fruits, meat, milk products and sweets." The majority of the immigrants were Ukrainians of southern Russia.

167 But two years before our arrival there all had changed. Enterprising firms,
228 partly with American money, began to develop fisheries for the export of Kam-
563 chatka salmon. A saltery and a cannery were established in Osernaya and the Russian colony there worked during the short summer as laborers. The fishing
464 company furnished them with money, food, clothing, fuel and building material and they were able to withstand the hardships caused by the most inhospitable of

6:Antropova E-4 (no date) 1964 RY3 Kamchadal RY3

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Village, 18th-century engraving.

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At the time of the first Russian acquaintance with Kamchatka the Itel'mens maintained a primitive-communal order. "Until its subjection to Russian rule," wrote Krasheninnikov, "this wild people lived in a state of complete freedom; it had no masters, was subjected to no laws, and paid tribute to no one. Old and courageous people had superior position [554] in every ostroshka, but this meant only that their advice was hearkened to. Generally, there was equality among them, no one could issue commands to anyone else, and no one had the right to mete out punishment on his own [614] to anyone." Every village was inhabited by members of one clan. The semidugout housed several related families; the number of its inhabitants [342] sometimes was as high as 100. They were bound by collective production [592] and consumption. The custom of vendetta prevailed.

The woman held a high position in family and social life. Many features of matriarchy persisted in the Itel'men social system. These included the [562] husband's moving into the wife's home, or at least temporary residence [591] in the father-in-law's house; marriage by working for the bride, which [583] involved the groom's moving to her home and performing various tasks. But the matriarchal organization was already in a state of disintegration [182] in the beginning of the 18th century. Constant wars among individual clans [172] and with neighboring peoples, waged for the sake of seizing women and captives, who were partially turned into slaves, intensified this process. The arrival of Russians in Kamchatka led to rapid changes in the economy [648] and life of the Itel'mens.

The religious notions of the Itel'mens, according to 18th-century explorers, and primarily Krasheninnikov, had many elements in common [671] with the beliefs of the Koryaks and Chukchi. These included the idea of the raven-creator, rituals and celebrations connected with the annual economic [796] cycle, whale, bear and other ceremonials, consisting of "treating" and "giving gifts" to the animals killed in the hunt. The most important of these was the fall festival, ending in "purification"—passing through hoops of birch twigs. The Itel'mens believed in evil mountain and forest

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

136 yellow foxes (*Vulpes fulvus*), who sat inspecting us curiously as we floated down, and were none the worse for their temerity. According to our hunters, these animals are not nearly as common now as formerly, though from what reason it is difficult to say, as the skin is of no great value, and they are in consequence not much hunted. Ducks of the kinds I have already mentioned were in great numbers, and the Merganser (*M. serrator*) also seemed fairly abundant. It was of course impossible for us to reach Werchni Kamschatka before nightfall, so, having made about forty versts, we landed on one of the broad pebbly beaches, where the spring freshets had already collected abundant firewood
252 for us, and pitched our camp. The Sherowmy men had a simple but effective plan of cooking duck that I had never seen before. The bird is plucked with care, so as to leave the skin unbroken, and is not drawn. A stick is forced down the throat, and the other end stuck into the ground close to the fire. The effect produced when a party of a dozen are thus cooking their suppers is not a little absurd: it is as if the camp-fire had burst into a perfect girandole of naked ducks, who fly quacking from it in open-mouthed alarm.

We had hitherto been favoured with far finer weather than that usually to be expected during late autumn, but the next day dawned threateningly, and before long fulfilled its promise to the utmost. A pall of thick leaden clouds with ragged edges hung over us, and a steady downpour that showed every prospect of
161 continuance soon commenced. Hour after hour we paddled on
721 through the driving rain, and it was not until after mid-day that
361 we stepped ashore, wet and cold, at the hamlet of Werchni Kamschatka. Like most of these places, it is composed of a bare dozen
R of huts, with a total population of less than fifty souls; but it
177 enjoys the distinction of being the only settlement on the Kams-
. 72 chatka River that is marked on the English chart of the country. In bygone days it may have merited it, for it was one of the first *ostrogs* established by the Russians after their conquest of the

22: Guillemard T-2 (1882) 1886 Kamchadal

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peninsula. Now, however, Melcova must be regarded as the chief town of the interior, and its proximity—for it is only fifteen versts distant—must always effectually keep its rival in check. We were glad to get warm and partially dried at the house of the head-man before starting again for this latter place. Some few signs of cultivation were apparent: a few potatoes and turnips, and a small field of rye, the first cereal we had met with since our arrival in the country. It looked miserable enough under the pouring rain, and probably had little if any chance of ripening.

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Three more hours of rain and paddling brought us to Melcova. It was almost too wet for shooting, but we noticed two or three small parties of the red-necked Phalerope (*L. hyperboreus*) on our passage. Those that we obtained were in autumn plumage, and were most probably on their way to warmer latitudes. But few duck were to be seen. They had in all probability betaken themselves to the marshes at the onset of the rain, and the river was devoid of life. Before reaching the village an elaborate arrangement of fishing-stakes gave warning of the presence of what in Kamschatka may be termed civilisation. The stakes stretched right across the stream from bank to bank, but we found a small gap at the side sufficient to admit of the passage of a single canoe, and capable of being still further enlarged by pressing down the stakes. The arrangement for taking the fish consisted in the construction of small *currals* at intervals of about fifteen yards. These were long bottle-shaped baskets on the lobster-pot principle, furnished with doors opening at the lower end, by means of which the fish could be secured by gaff or otherwise. We learnt that there were very strict rules with regard to the complete barring of the river at this spot. The inhabitants are obliged to leave a free passage for the fish at the time of their first arrival in the spring, and also on certain days in the week or month at a later period. But for this arrangement the people of Sherowmy and Werchni Kamschatka would of course be without means of subsistence during the winter months.